

February 10, 2009

Mr. Charles R. Saxbe  
Chester Willcox & Saxbe LLP  
65 East State St., Suite 1000  
Columbus, OH 43215-4213

Dear Mr. Saxbe,

Please consider this as a response to your letter of January 15, 2009.

My community's air quality is already severely compromised due to pollution released from the four existing power plants concentrated around us, as well as the emissions being generated by nearby aluminum and manganese factories. If AMP-Ohio should choose to proceed with plans to build the AMPGS plant, it would contribute an additional 36 million pounds of combined sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, particle pollution, and carbon monoxide each year (according to the AMP-Ohio EPA permit). This is an injustice.

Despite being a remote, rural community, the American Cancer Society's 2007 and 2008 reports (covering 2000-2004, and 2001-2005, respectively ) rank Meigs County, Ohio as #1 in lung cancer death rates for men, and men and women combined in this state. In my opinion, AMP Ohio's proposed 1,000 megawatt coal-fired power plant in Letart Falls poses additional risks to our health and environment, not to mention the increased risks inherent to attracting the supporting industries that would surely increase coal mining, coal transportation, and coal waste disposal resulting from concentrating even more power plants in our immediate community.

I will continue to exercise my First Amendment right to voice my heartfelt objections to the impacts inherent to coal extraction and consumption that we are being forced to absorb on a daily basis. I will continue to urge AMP-Ohio and its members not to build a coal-fired power plant here.

Your letter listed three specific statements you said I have made which are "false." I have not intentionally made any false statements, and I will be glad to clear up any misunderstandings that I may have had.

1. You cite "your repeated statement that AMP-Ohio has admitted it will exceed sulfur dioxide limits at AMPGS." I was not intentionally making a false statement. Whether or not AMP-Ohio's air permit exceeds sulfur dioxide emission limits is one of the issues involved in the appeal of AMP-Ohio's air permit. The groups appealing the permit, NRDC et al, contend that AMP's permit exceeds sulfur dioxide limits. I misunderstood this to mean that AMP had

admitted that it would exceed those limits. From now on, I will be clear that this is an issue in the permit appeal but that AMP-Ohio has not made admissions regarding this issue.

2. I am confused by your comment that quoted me as stating in Oberlin that “AMP-Ohio coal wastes are used on roads and at schools in Meigs County.” I did take a sample of coal waste I collected from my driveway and road in front of my home to the Oberlin City Council, and told them that we do not need more coal waste in our community. I am well aware that the AMP-Ohio plant has not been built, so I would not claim that AMP-Ohio is currently spreading these wastes.
3. As you know, I did make presentations at several city councils around Ohio in late 2007 and early 2008, urging those communities not to participate in building a new coal plant in my community. Two of those city councils, Oberlin and Yellow Springs, voted not to participate in AMPGS and members of council thanked me for sharing my perspective and said it helped them make their decision. In my comments on the “Trailer Talk” radio show, I also mentioned that AMP-Ohio was soliciting the involvement of communities in Pennsylvania. I did not intend to make a false statement regarding the total levels of participation in AMPGS, and may have misunderstood the date at which AMP-Ohio claims to have reached “sufficient participation.”

Because none of the AMP-Ohio member communities or members who would build this plant will be living with the daily effects of its pollution, I want them and the officials of AMP-Ohio to fully understand the consequences of their decision. I hope that you and AMP-Ohio will find it in your hearts to listen to the voice of someone who knows what it’s like to be the neighbor of multiple coal-fired power plants. I invite you to visit and see for yourselves. Please reconsider committing Ohio's precious resources to the last of a dying, coal-dependent technology that threatens the future well-being of our planet. If you would instead commit to making Ohio and our immediate community true leaders in non-polluting, infinite, renewable energy resources, ***I would be your strongest supporter.***

Sincerely,

Elisa Young  
48360 Carmel Road  
Racine, OH 45771

Cc: Edward A. Icove, attorney at law  
Sandy Buchanan, executive director, Ohio Citizen Action